

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01 /147 W
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P R 211113 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3434

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 426

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2148

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR PINS BY OAU TZ

SUBJECT: BURUNDI PROBLEM

REF: (A) STATE 120817; (B) STATE 118568 AND 114225

1. I RAISED BURUNDI PROBLEM TODAY WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE. USING
SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE REFTELS, I SAID THAT USG TRYING, WITHOUT FANFARE,
TO BRING TO ATTENTION OF OAU AND SELECTED AFRICAN LEADERS OUR
CONCERNS ABOUT RENEWED VIOLENCE AND REPRISALS AGAINST HUTUS IN
BURUNDI. I FURTHER RECALLED THAT I HAD RAISED THE SAME MATTER
WITH HIM LAST AUGUST AND THAT HE HAD SAID THEN " PROBLEM WAS NOT
TO CASTIGATE GOB BUT GIVE IT CONFIDENCE TO DO WHAT IT MUST TO
PREVENT RECURRENCE OF SUCH EVENTS IN THE FUTURE."

2. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT REPRISALS IN MAY, 1973 HAD NOT REACHED
LAST YEAR ' S DIMENSIONS, I NOTED THAT THEY HAVE RECURRED-- AND MAY BE
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CONTINUING. IN VIEW OF ENORMITY OF THE TRAGEDY AND THE FACT THE TANGOV BEARS MAIN REFUGEE BURDEN, I ASKED NYERERE FOR HIS PRESENT THOUGHTS.

3. NYERERE ADMITTED KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT IN HIS EXPECTATIONS OF MICOMBERO'S BEING ABLE TO HANDLE THE PROBLEM. NYERERE AGREED WITH OUR THESIS THAT "INTERNATIONALIZING" THE PROBLEM MAY OFFER BEST HOPE. HE SAID HE WAS DEEPLY DISTRESSED BY DEVELOPMENTS AND FELT BEST APPROACH WAS AN "AFRICAN ONE". NYERERE SAID OAU MAY BE THE VEHICLE AND THAT "AFRICANS HAVE GOT TO STOP IGNORING IMMENSE PROBLEMS WITHIN THE BORDERS OF THEIR STATES BY HIDING BEHIND RESTRICTIONS OF THE OAU CHARTER."

4. NYERERE WAS MOST OUTSPOKEN IN CHARGING THAT AFRICANS WERE APPLYING DOUBLE STANDARDS IN REFUSING TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND PROTEST ETHNIC TRIBAL PROBLEMS IN THEIR NATIONS. HE SAID "IF BURUNDI MASSACRES HAD OCCURRED ANYWHERE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, ONE WOULD HEAR SCREAMS ALL OVER THE PLACE*"

5. RETURNING TO THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM, NYERERE SAID HE WAS GIVING SERIOUS THOUGHT TO IDEAS WHICH COULD BE SUPPORTED AND PUSHED BY THE OAU. HE SAID, "THEY (BUJUMBURA) KNOW HOW WE (TANGOV) FEEL ABOUT THIS. WE HAVE SOME PROBLEMS ON A BILATERAL BASIS AND I THINK THERE IS MORE LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS IF IT IS NOT THE PROPOSAL OF ONE OR TWO NEIGHBORS."

6. I ASKED IF THE UPCOMING MEETING BETWEEN MOBUTU, KAUNDA AND HIMSELF MIGHT CONSIDER THE BURUNDI QUESTION AND HE SAID, WHILE ZAIRE HAD BEEN PICKED AS THE NEXT VENUE FOR THE MEETING OF THE THREE PRESIDENTS, NO DATE HAD YET BEEN AGREED UPON. NYERERE AGREED TO KEEP US INFORMED ON ACTIONS HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT MAY INITIATE ON BURUNDI.
CARTER

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